

The Hong Kong Telegraph.

Nº. 2039.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1888.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER

Banks.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—THE BUSINESS of the above BANK will be conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, on their premises in Hongkong. Business Hours on WEEK-DAYS, 10 to 3; SATURDAYS, 10 to 1.

2.—SUMS LESS THAN \$1, OR MORE THAN \$250 at one time will not be received. No Depositor may deposit more than \$3,000 in any one year.

3.—DEPOSITORS in the SAVINGS BANK, having \$100 or more, at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—INTEREST at the rate of 3½% per annum will be allowed to Depositors on their daily balances.

5.—EACH DEPOSITOR will be supplied gratis with a PASS-BOOK, which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their PASS-BOOKS, but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—CORRESPONDENCE as to the Business of the Bank, if marked ON HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS, will be forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—WITHDRAWALS may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and the production of his PASS-BOOK, are necessary.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager

Hongkong, 1st September 1887.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.

PAID-UP CAPITAL 500,000.

Registered Office, 40, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT, Buys and Sells BILLS OF EXCHANGE, ISSUES LETTERS OF CREDIT, forwards BILLS for COLLECTION, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally, on terms to be had on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS : Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

" " " " " 4 " "

ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS 2 per Cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.

APPROVED CLAIMS on the ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, in Liquidation, or the BALANCES of such claims, purchased on advantageous terms.

AGENCY OF THE NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager,
HONGKONG BRANCH.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$7,500,000.
RESERVE FUND 4,000,000.

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS 7,500,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS :—

CHAIRMAN—HON. JOHN BELL-IRVING.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—W. H. FORBES, Esq.

C. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq.

S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.

W. G. BROOKS, Esq.

J. S. MOSES, Esq.

H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.

L. POENECKER, Esq.

F. J. HOLLOWAY, Esq.

N. A. SIEKS, Esq.

B. LAYTON, Esq.

E. A. SOLOMON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER :—

HONGKONG—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER :—

SHANGHAI—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS :—

For 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.

For 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

For 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of BANKING and EXCHANGE business transacted.

DRAFFTS granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 4th September, 1888.

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AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORITY of the ITALIAN CONVENT, Zing Road, beg most respectfully, to APPEAL to the residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports for their kind Protection and Support. At present, owing to the daily increasing number of the Orphans, foundling Children, and destitute Women, who already exceed FIVE HUNDRED, the Superiority finds herself in pressing need of further assistance. She has no fund at her disposal, the whole of the means available being earned by laborious needle-work. The Superiority therefore desires to state that she will be pleased to receive Orders for Gentlemen's Shirts and Pyjamas, Ladies' Under-clothing, and Children's Dresses, and Under-clothing, Embroidery in Any Form, and in Gold, Silk, Wool, or Cotton, also Regimental Embroidery.

Materials supplied if required, and Persons living at a distance can send Orders by Letter. As the Terms are very moderate, the Superiority hopes to receive many large sums of Money from Friends.

Hongkong, 4th September, 1888.

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Estimations.

CONTINUANCE OF

GREAT CHEAP SALE.

ROSE & CO.'S STOCK.

SPECIAL LINES FOR THIS WEEK.

CRETONNES, TAPESTRIES, CARPETS, HEARTH RUGS, TABLE COVERS, TABLE LINENS, BLANKETS, SHEETINGS, QUILTS, DIMITIES, SWISS and GUIPURE LACE CURTAINS, TAPESTRY CURTAINS, BEDSTEADS, &c., &c.

A SMALL STOCK of HIGH CLASS FURNITURE Manufactured and Guaranteed by the HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE Co., Ltd., will also be included at SPECIAL SALE PRICES, thus affording a splendid opportunity for Parties about to Furnish.

Also the Remainder of the Stock of early AUTUMN DRESS MATERIALS, SILKS, SATINS, and LADIES', GENTLEMEN'S, and CHILDREN'S OUTFITTING GOODS.

JUST RECEIVED EX MAIL,

A CONSIGNMENT OF FINEST QUALITY

ELECTRO PLATED WARE,

SUITABLE FOR

PRESENTS AND CLUB TROPHIES,

THE BEST VALUE EVER IMPORTED TO HONGKONG.

THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 24th September, 1888.

[919]

W. BREWER

I S the only maker of INDIA RUBBER STAMPS and can execute orders in one day, for any description of Stamps with the exception of Facsimile Stamps which necessitates two days labour.

Prices cheaper than Ivory Stamps and the impressions much clearer.

Agent for WHEELER & WILSON'S SEWING MACHINES a stock of which just received.

DEMON TENNIS BATS all weights.

PRESSES.

NEW PHOTOS of the PEAK and Peak Tramway and new Photos of Victoria.

W. BREWER,

UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL

Hongkong, 18th September, 1888.

[100]

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

HAVE RECEIVED NEW STOCKS OF

CRICKETING GOODS :—

BATS, BALLS, STUMPS, LEG-GUARDS, &c.

CAPS, FLANNEL SHIRTS, SHOES, and SCORING BOOKS.

TENNIS GOODS :—

BATS and BALLS from Various Makers.

NETS, POLES, COURT MARKERS, &c.

TENNIS SHOES.

BATS RE-STRUNG.

LAWN MOWERS.

BILLIARD TABLES, CUES, BALLS, RESTS, &c.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 7th September, 1888.

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ROBERT LANG & CO.,

TAILORS, HATTERS, SHIRTMAKERS, AND GENERAL OUTFITTERS.

N E W G O O D S .

TALL SILK HATS.

Drab Felt Hats.

Black, Brown Drab and Grey

Ulster Tweeds.

Fine Black Diagonal & Cork

screw for Dress Suits.

Black, Blue and Brown Fancy

Tweed and Soft Felt.

Tweed Hat and Caps in New

Shapes.

Straw Hats and Pith Hats.

Silk Umbrellas from \$5 each,

over 100 to choose from.

A large assortment of Walking

Sticks.

Waterproof Coats, Leggings, &

Chair Aprons.

Travelling Rugs and Scotch

Mauds.

Over Coatings, Light & Heavy.

Drab Felt Hats.

Black, Brown Drab and Grey

Ulster Tweeds.

Fine Black Diagonal & Cork

screw for Dress Suits.

Black, Blue and Brown Fancy

Tweed and Soft Felt.

Tweed Hat and Caps in New

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Tweed Hat and Caps in New

Shapes.

Straw Hats and Pith Hats.

Silk Umbrellas from \$5 each,

over 100 to choose from.

A large assortment of Walking

ENTHUSIASMS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

OUR NEW SEASON'S

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SEEDS

ARE NOW READY.

Flower Parcels of 50 Packets, price, \$10.00;
" " 20 " " 5.00;
Vegetable " 45 " 7.50;
Single Packets at list prices.

SPECIAL FLORIST'S SEEDS.

In Packets of six or more named varieties,
viz:-

CLOVE PINKS—PANSIES—PHLOX—
HOLLYHOCKS—PORTULACA, VERBENA
and PETUNIA.

MIGNONETTE MACHEL

(The New Variety).

Priced Catalogue on application.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Hongkong, 31st August 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph
Hongkong, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1888.

Now that inquiry has been made into the recent attempt at escape made by a section of the chain-gang employed on the Government works at West Point and the whole of the circumstances laid before the public, we can without prejudice to the interests of any person concerned deal briefly with the salient features of what, in the light of past experiences, must be regarded not only as an extraordinary occurrence but also as a most discreditable proof of the inefficiency of our convict system. We do not propose discussing whether convict labour on public works is justified or otherwise; the authorities have for the time being decided that this is the best direction in which the services of prisoners sentenced to a long term can be usefully employed, and we do not see our way to raise any objection. But when the authorities saw fit to re-introduce the chain-gang, they also incurred an obligation to the community—they undertook to properly guard the convicts when at work and to preserve the public peace. How efficiently they have carried out this obligation was clearly shown by Major-General Gordon, Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, in the evidence he gave before the Coroner on Saturday. According to this officer, there have been no fewer than five escapes from the chain-gang since December 1887, and yet, for reasons which are not easily understood, instead of taking a wrinkle from the convicts and profiting by experience, the Gaol authorities, or the police, or the Government, or whoever is supposed to be responsible, calmly continued the old regulations which had been so practically tested and found so thoroughly imperfect and inefficient. Surely this latest attempt of desperate men to regain their liberty, again showing up the utter uselessness of the existing system and ending with such tragic results, will prove "the last straw!"

We cannot pretend to know who is directly responsible for the frightfully disorganized state of the gaol guards when the dozen Chinese convicts made that bold dash for liberty. Instead of any concerted plan of action, which would inevitably have nipped the rising in the bud, the turnkeys and their assistants would appear to have commenced indiscriminately blinding away with rifles and revolvers at the fugitives, without making the least effort for their re-capture. And a splendid exhibition these trained (?) warders made of themselves. The junk which the convicts took possession of was only a few yards from the shore, and the prisoners were plainly visible trying to hoist the sail, yet, although hundreds of rounds are said to have been fired, only one or two bullets took effect, and it is positively certain that but for the timely advent of Inspector STANTON and the Aberdeen ferry launch the Chinese desperadoes would have escaped. And when we read that revolvers would not fire, and that one of the guards kept pulling away at his rifle when it was half-cock and could not account for its mysteriously refusing to go off, the only conclusion that can be arrived at is that nothing but gross neglect and mismanagement could allow such a state of affairs to exist.

The Coroner's inquiry into this sad business should be supplemented by a searching investigation into the defective conditions of the convict system now so prominently made public. There has been the usual rabid outcry, in which our local contemporaries have joined like yelping curs for a scapegoat, and pointed indications of an unmistakable character have been freely indulged in. We are unable to gather from what transpired in the Coroner's court where the direct responsibility actually rests, and it is on this account that we suggest the necessity for

an independent inquiry going far beyond the scope of the Coroner's inquest. No doubt the Superintendent of the Gaol has already specially reported on the subject to the Governor, and it is quite likely that his explanation, so far as his own personal liability is concerned, is satisfactory enough; but the matter should not end there. Such grave defects as have been shown to exist when a slight crisis arises, both in the efficiency of the convict system and the discipline of the gaol officials, should not lightly be passed over, and especially when, as in the instance now under review, there has been serious loss of life and such a shock to the confidence of the community directly attributable to these inexcusable shortcomings.

TELEGRAMS.

(From *Straits Times*.)

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

WASHINGTON, September 12th.

General Harrison has issued a manifesto promising to revise and modify the tariff, restricting foreign labour, and to oppose the admission of Chinese immigrants into the country. The manifesto also expresses confidence that a firm, and dignified diplomacy would result in a prompt and peaceful solution of the Canadian Fisheries question.

THE TRANSVAAL.

DURBAN, September 13th.

Latest advices state that Dinizulu has surrendered.

BOULANGER.

PARIS, September 14th.

"It is reported that General Boulanger is travelling for pleasure.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE gunboats *Merlin* and *Espion* left this morning for a cruise.

SENATOR J. DA SILVA, Chief Justice of Macao, came across this forenoon by the river steamer *Kiukiang*.

THE old flagship *Audacious* left Singapore for Plymouth, via Batavia and the Seychelles, on the 12th inst.

THE P. & O. Company's steamer *Venetia*, from Bombay, left Singapore on the 22nd inst., at 5 p.m., for this port.

THE U. S. Corvette *Juniata* flew the usual home pennant from her mainmast to-day, in token of an early departure for the United States.

AN Emergency meeting of Perseverance Lodge, No. 1165, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Saturday, the 29th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

TODAY at the Police Court, before Mr. Pollock, a married woman named Min Achee, was charged by P.C. McDonald with indecently baiting in a stream near a public road on the 23rd inst. at 5.30 p.m. Complainant said the stream was called Nullah, near Kennedy Road, and the accused was not more than 30 yards away and was decidedly in an indecent condition as regards clothing, having only the upper part of her body covered. The charge being proved the defaulting bather was ordered to "ant-up" one Mexican or to take a week in retirement. The fine was paid with a rueful countenance.

SAYS THE *Straits Times*:—Opium, on which the financial prosperity of the colony rests bears steadily up against the fiscal strain. The reletting of the farm has yielded the handsome increase of about 30 per cent over the return for the previous three years. The revenue of the Colony need excite no apprehension; on the score of elasticity. It does advance by leaps and bounds to the accumulation of surplus, which has to be disposed of abroad by investment, as provision for the rainy day. commendable as prudence and fore-thought of this kind cannot fail to be, they run beyond due bounds when put in practice against the Municipality of this Settlement. It would be no hardship on the Government to take up the debenture stock of the Board at 45 per cent, instead of demanding 5 per cent. The flourishing state of the finances admits of greater liberality in the interests of the public.

At the Police Court to-day Mr. Wodehouse sentenced a seaman of the steamship *Gathrie*, named Eusin, a native of Bangkok, to six months imprisonment with hard labour, for stabbing a shipmate in the neck, who had asked him to repay a debt of three or four dollars. A Chinese seaman was also fined \$250 for being found in possession of 60 ticals of prepared opium without a certificate from the Opium Farmer. The complainant, an Excise officer named Chung Ming, said that on the 22nd instant he saw the *Opium Farmer* coming from a Chinese town called Sheik Ho, and as it discharged its passengers at the wharf near the Harbour Master's Office, he saw the accused coming ashore with a parcel tied up so as to resemble moon-cake, which on examination turned out to be opium. Defendant admitted the charge and paid the fine.

ANOTHER of "Brownie's" sarcasms:—"That legal-minded people may prize about Police Officers exceeding their duty, but sometimes the end justifies the means, and smashing in of the latter end of the pirated coal-junk may be cited as an instance." The meaning of this oracular sentence can be guessed by those who read and run. "Brownie" declares Inspector Stanton's action in trying to disable the convict-lunk which was making for Captain-moon to have been illegal! If such is the case, if the standard of legality raised on high by this journalistic "Turnip-top" is the true one, then all our convicts may escape with perfect impunity; not a shot need be fired at them even if they pit the Police with pieces of coal, or murder one of their captors by striking him on the head while struggling in the water. If Inspector Stanton's action in disabling the junk was illegal, we unconditionally side with that illegality and hope our legal friend will have ample opportunity to distinguish himself in a like capacity. "Brownie" had better devote his talents to something more refreshing than lecturing the Colony on legalities about which he knows nothing.

Mrs. MITCHELL, a Singapore broker, was committed for trial at the criminal sessions of the Supreme Court by Mr. Anthony, police magistrate, on the 5th inst., on a charge of cheating a Mrs. Bowman out of \$3,500. The trial will not take place until the middle of November, and the accused will remain in prison until that time.

THUS a Japanese native paper:—Sapporo beer enjoyed at one time an excellent reputation in Tokyo, and appeared likely to drive imported beer out of the market, but afterwards bad management caused the article to lose favour. In order to recover the trade a skilled German brewer is to be employed, and as Hokkaido is well known to be adapted for growing the best kinds of barley, we have no doubt fine beer will again be produced.

We are glad to learn, says the *Bangkok Times*, that the new manager of the Siam Forest Company Limited, Mr. McIver, is determined to cut the Gordian knot and make a practical attempt to do something in the interests of his employers. This gentleman, who seems to work on a broad business basis, has recently paid Rs. 20,000 for thirteen Chingmai elephants. With these—and plain common-sense—he yet hopes to get some timber out of the forests and down to Bangkok.

HELLO! some one gets the *China Mail* in furrow Hawaii. We know that paper would go good do it. Now then Hongkong ships, passengers, mails, and female are to be quarantined for 21 days because we have cholera here! King Makakakamutu, we haven't heard of any around here except in Macao, since July; "pon honour". Well, please your Majesty's self—but we know what would come of that mission 'pon organ's Revelations."

ON Saturday last Police Constable Graham shot a full grown civet-cat over in British Kowloon. The animal was discovered disporting and occasionally addressing itself to the business of catching sparrows in the branches of a banyan tree not far from the place where its twin sister was shot a few weeks back. It measured about thirty-seven inches from the point of its sharp fox-like nose to the tip of the bushy tail; and thus was hardly as fine a specimen as the last, which is now a valuable specimen" in the City Hall Museum.

THE shooting for the Hongkong Rifle Association's Monthly (Handicap) Challenge Cup took place at Kowloon on Saturday, and after a very close finish Mr. C. D. Wilkinson carried off the trophy with a total score at the two ranges (two and five hundred yards) of 65, including 7 points handicap allowance. Mr. Wilkinson scored 30 and 28 respectively. Police constable Robertson, allowed 4, was a good second with 63, Mr. John Andrew, 8 points start, taking third place with the same total. The veteran Mr. E. L. Woodin was scarcely up to his best form at the shorter range only getting on the "bull" once in a total of 28, but at the 500 yards, after starting with an outer, he found the six times running and totted up 32 a very good performance. With two or three exceptions the all round shooting was more than creditable.

AT the Police Court this morning, before Mr. Wodehouse, a coolie named Au Ping, 27, and a cook named Sha Kam Hi, 22, were charged on remand with "highway robbery" at British Kowloon on the 7th inst. The complainant Sam Li Shang said he was a trader doing business between Tai Pung, a city in Kwangtung province, and Hongkong. On the 6th inst. he had sold some ground nuts in Hongkong for 26 taels, and early on the following morning he left town for home. With a companion he left Yau-ma-tai about 6 a.m. bound for Tai Pung, and on getting to a place called Tai-shek-kok, which is in British territory, and where there is a tea shed, the two travellers saw the first defendant come out and join the second, who had followed them from Yau-ma-tai. On getting about one hundred yards further along the road, they saw two men approaching from ahead, and when they had come up to within three or four yards of the complainants somebody called out "begin" when the four strangers rushed on the two travellers and seized them. The first prisoner got hold of the companion, and the second addressed himself to witness by seizing him from behind, during which a big witness came on his shoulder, containing his money and some clothing, was taken by the assistants. His purse, containing \$1.10, was also taken, after which the two men were taken on to the top of hill, their hands tied behind their backs, their feet lashed together and gag put into their mouths. They were then laid near the road and left to ponder over their misfortunes. Soon afterwards an old man, who happened to be passing, untied their lashings, when they walked back to Yau-ma-tai and gave information to the police. The prisoners were committed for trial at the Supreme Court.

THE Macao Municipal election, in pursuance of the decree recently issued by Governor da Costa after dissolving for the second time the *Leal Senado*, took place yesterday, and resulted, as was confidently anticipated, in a complete triumph for the members of the twice dissolved Corporation. Most of the public functionaries and military men were again conspicuous by their absence from the election, Governor da Costa's late injunction to abstain from voting still acting as a sufficient deterrent on the unfortunate official subordinates and hangers-on. The following was the result of the poll:—D. C. Pacheco, the ex-President, 146 votes; Cincio Jorge, 146 votes; A. G. da Fonseca, 145; J. Ribeiro, 145; F. V. Sanchez, 145; A. Silva Telles, 139. A few other impossible votes were wasted on several individuals, the Governor himself scoring one. It may safely be said that the members of the extinct Municipality were re-elected unanimously, and that once more the electors of Macao have jointly and severally given Senhor da Costa to understand that they will not submit to his autocratic system of government, any more than they will barter their free votes for a transient governmental smile of friendship or protection. A pamphlet was circulated in Macao on Saturday last dealing with the Municipal question. It is entitled "An analysis of the Report made by the Commission appointed to inquire into the affairs of the Municipal Chamber dissolved by decree No. 108 of the 4th August, 1888." By Domingos C. Pacheco, and his colleagues of the extinct Corporation. The defence of the *Senado* is complete, and it is a crushing blow to Governor da Costa and his myrmidons. The *Correio Macaense* of the 1st inst. publishes a long and energetic manifesto of adhesion from the Portuguese residents of Shanghai to Senator Pacheco and his colleagues. It is signed by 131 residents of the Model Settlement, and is substantially similar to the address sent by the Portuguese community of this colony to the members of the *Leal Senado* last July.

GENERAL and the *Malta Mail* arrived yesterday by the P. & O. steamer *Malta*, from Yokohama.

The return of the number of visitors to the City Hall-Museum for the week ending 23rd September, are—European, 125, Chinese, 1,695; total, 1,820.

SAYS the *Hongkong News*:—The termination of the connection of Messrs. Gowland and MacLagan with the Imperial Japanese Mint, following as it does so closely upon the cessation of the practice of sending pyx coins, &c., for assay to the Mint at Washington and London, is not calculated to reassure foreigners respecting the future operations of the establishment at Osaka. The result is doubtless of no moment to the Government at present, but it certainly will be if they are still desirous of having the silver accepted abroad immediately and without suspicion. In course of time confidence may, perhaps, be established in a coinage conducted entirely without impartial supervision, but in the interval the Chinese shroffs may be expected to take full advantage of opportunities afforded them by a discredited currency.

GENERAL and the *Malta Mail* arrived yesterday by the P. & O. steamer *Malta*, from Yokohama.

INSPECTOR Quincey made an important seizure yesterday of sixty-six tins of red lead and other paints, stolen from the premises of the Dock Company at Kowloon. The Inspector, who has been on the watch for some time past, at about 1 p.m. boarded a sampan off Blackhead & Co.'s coal godowns at Kowloon Point and found three Chinese and the stolen property. The man steering the boat produced one of the Dock Company's printed invoices purporting to be signed by the chief clerk at Kowloon, and setting out that the paint was consigned to Mr. John Wocki, who, it seems, is a person of some notoriety. This dodge did not, however, pass muster with the lynx-eyed detective, who at once took charge of the boat and its contents. The case of investigation is likely to produce some startling disclosures in connection with the management at Kowloon.

THE London *Lancet* has lately been discussing the great and growing disorder of insomnia, or an inability to impress into personal service that universal restorer of daily life and health which men call sleep. The complaint appears to be general throughout the civilized world, and is as common out here in China as it is in London or New York. In this colony where commercial and social life should run along as smoothly as that deep flowing, placid river which erstwhile drained the fertile lands of Arcadia, what is more common than for us to hear our friends at the morning greeting lamenting an inability to sleep. "I slept very badly last night, never got a wink, I assure you, till four o'clock this morning" is quite a usual complaint. So, my friend, and what was the cause? The causes of insomnia, or an habitual condition of sleeplessness, no doubt are due to matters which medical science is quite competent to deal with, but the way the *Lancet* handles the subject would dispose some readers to believe that it was past all comprehension. What, for example, can it be which keeps a perfectly healthy man tossing on his pillow two and three hours after screwing down the flame of his midnight oil, other than some functional and trivial disorder of the stomach? That, at least, is the first idea which presents itself to reason, or even to those who do not eat and drink on the shop, and the fits and starts of insomnia have so far proved anything but a financial success. The experience of the Singapore Tramway Company should not be lost sight of by those who are madly clamouring for a low level tram system in Hongkong. No doubt after the *Praya* reclamations have been carried out a line will run along the entire length of the new bund, but even under the most favorable circumstances it may be doubted whether it will pay a paying investment. The jinrikishas, as we pointed out when discussing this question years ago, is a popular, speedy and economical mode of conveyance, and will not easily be "knocked out." Referring to Singapore trams the *Straits Times* observes:—Judging from the Tramway Company's report for the first half of the year, it can only just succeed in making both ends meet. The profit of five thousand dollars for that period had to be written off on account of depreciation. The competition of jinrikishas has not curtailed the number of passengers carried, but has undoubtedly told heavily against its large increase. These handy vehicles must indeed have run the cars hard to call for doubling the line in order to keep the concern going. The tramway has proved such a useful adjunct to the traffic facilities of the town, that its abandonment would be a public misfortune. The shareholders will find doubling the line to be only one improvement out of many. The management needs to be kept more fully alive to the public requirements, and more attentive to the wants of that section of the community on whose patronage they depend for success.

TIT report, which on enquiry was found to be almost groundless, that the police authorities have seized all the copies of Zola's *La Terre*, which were offered and advertised for sale in the Colony, does not take us by surprise. Home papers received by last mail give an account of the prosecution instituted by the metropolitan police against Messrs. Vizetelly for selling English translations of one of the latest of Zola's realistic novels. If the book is reputed obscene and demoralising in London, it follows that it must be considered so in the Colonies, and particularly so in Crown Colonies. The same laws regulating publications and repressing the abuses of the press obtain here as are in force at home. A little movement was also set on foot by our Legislative to extend copyright privilege and laws to this city,—a wise measure, by the bye to protect literary property from colonial plagiarists and other *petrae* of literary depredators who may be found flourishing in the Colonies with more impunity than they do at home. As far as obscene literature, strong repressive and penal laws are in force in every civilised part of the world; and the stronger they are the better; for it is a recognised fact that civilisation must be intolerant of all attempts at demoralising the masses. Obscene literature is one of the most demoralising elements conceivable; and as such it deserves prompt and radical suppression. But we question the charge of obscenity proffered against Zola's *La Terre*. In a review of the work we published last year when the first copies in the French language were imported to the Colony we said that although the book abounded with obscene passages, these were not of the erotic kind; they did not aim, like Daudet's *"Sappho"* or "Memoirs of Core Pearl," or the thousand and one other publications of the same stamp, at stimulating the prurient to vice, but their special object was to paint realities in order to elicit in the reader's mind a due sense of abhorrence of the same. Zola's aim in *"La Terre"* is to show the baseness, the gross immorality and ignorance of the French peasant; and to call upon the Government to make radical provisions to ameliorate the condition of French husbandmen and *petrae*. Would it author with such a laudable end in view realise his plan, unless by depicting the miseries, intellectual, moral, and social, which exist? Zola is no budding novelist who would stoop to purchase fame and notoriety at the expense of decency and self-respect. He has long ago struck out a path for himself in the region of French literature, and he has journeyed along with great success in his self-imposed task of introducing realism into the domain of the novel. If he has erred, it has been in encrusting his books with repulsive colours, but the characters and scenes he has depicted are nevertheless true to life. The painter's object being evidently to exhibit naked truth, his excesses might have been overlooked, so long as his chief aim is a moral one. However, as laws and judges do not care a jot for intentions, on the principle, probably, that Hades is well paved with that cheap commodity, it is quite natural that *"La Terre"* should have been seized and proscribed. As far as our personal opinion is concerned, we have no objection to it. It is a work of genius. That it may overstep the limits allowed plain speaking by British law is very probable, but into that question we need not enter at present.

INSPECTOR Quincey made an important seizure yesterday of sixty-six tins of red lead and other paints, stolen from the premises of the Dock Company at Kowloon. The Inspector, who has been on the watch for some time past, at about 1 p.m. boarded a sampan off Blackhead & Co.'s coal godowns at Kowloon Point and found three Chinese and the stolen property. The man steering the boat produced one of the Dock Company's printed invoices purporting to be signed by the chief clerk at Kowloon, and setting out that the paint was consigned to Mr. John Wocki, who, it seems, is a person of some notoriety. This dodge did not, however, pass muster with the lyn

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1888.

safe-guard a most important undertaking. The whole affair, so far as can be learnt at present, appears to be an outrageous disgrace to the Colony and as clear an evidence as was ever produced of the sheer incompetence of that authority who is at the head of, and who has attempted to plan this system of utilizing convict labour. Let us hope we shall have some better guidance at the helm in time as long foretold when drilled and well organized assailants are knocking at the gates of the harbour, and who will possibly make their presence felt much more effectually than a wretched handful of manacled and retreating coolies at whose simple escape certain officers of the Colony have been found a fourth or fifth time, within a few months, wanting in ordinary resources.

Your's very truly,
NEMESIS.

Hongkong, September 22nd, 1888.

JAPAN IN SEARCH OF AN ETHIC.

(Translated by *Hyōgo News* from the *Sitomono Shimban*)

Much has lately been said and written in some of the foreign newspapers published in this country about Japan being in search of an Ethic. The assertion is not supported by fact, as the Japanese people have too much good sense to do anything of the sort. To run looking for an Ethic would be like a child going in pursuit of a butterfly.

It is well known to the people of this country what great discords and varieties of opinion exist upon religious subjects even in the most advanced and intelligent communities of America and Europe. Hence it would be an extremely difficult task, even if we desired to do so, to select out of that chaos a system of ethics upon which to confer the title of the true religion. It is our humble opinion that those who have had so much to say about "Japan in search of an Ethic" have some pet scheme of their own they would like to introduce for some reason or other, and to them we offer our thanks for their good intentions, and at the same time advise them to permit the Japanese people to develop an Ethic or religion of their own if they desire a different system from what now prevails. They can safely be entrusted with the task.

We also call the attention of those zealous writers to what it appears they have overlooked, viz., that a religious system cannot, after an existence of many centuries, be cast aside like an old garment, and a new one adopted at a moment's notice. It has often been observed that a performance of this kind invariably results badly.

It is true, no doubt, that all nations stand in need of mental advancement, and we submit as unanswerable that the people of Japan, with their temperate habits, their industry, their tolerance, and their affection for each other, occupy a position equal to that of any other country for mental development. Consequently our liberal school system and admirable scholastic institutions of a higher grade may be depended upon to produce the desired advancement in due course. It must be acknowledged by all impartial students that advancement towards a higher culture does not involve the adoption of ironclad dogmatism, but consists in the study of nature's grand principles, of nature's laws, in the cultivation of science, and in bringing those immutable laws to bear on our mental and physical being. In this way an Ethic will then be evolved which will teach the high moral doctrine that evil-doing will, not only in a future existence but in this life, bring its unavoidable punishment. If we by wrong-doing deprive ourselves of sympathy with nature's laws, our mental and physical peace and happiness are disturbed and suffer, because nature, of which man is the highest product, the highest essence, is all sympathy. Through such study and in such direction the national Ethic or religion will be improved and purified. Religion never civilizes a people, it is the people who civilize religion.

In course of time Japan will, with good results, send missionaries to the bighted districts of Rome, London, and New York.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

The Korean *Chargé d'Affaires* has been ordered by his Government to prepare a statement as to Japanese taxation.

The Hawaiian Minister will leave about the beginning of next month for Hawaii on business connected with Japanese emigration to the islands.

The *Iwaki Kan* sustained damage only to her upper works in the collision with the *Juntai* at Jinsen on the 13th ultimo. The *Amaki Kan*, however, has arrived at Jinsen, and the *Iwaki Kan* will in consequence leave for Nagasaki, where she will be repaired.

Messrs. Yangi, a commissioner, and Narashima, an assistant commissioner to the International Exhibition to be opened next year in Paris, will leave the capital on the morning of the 16th instant for Yokohama, whence they propose to start for France in the French steamer *Ava*.

A telegram from Osaka, dated the 3rd instant, states that 1,800 houses were destroyed and over 300 houses were partially damaged in Osaka by the heavy rains of the 31st ultimo, while 10 persons were killed and 60 persons received more or less severe injuries. Considerable damage is reported to have been done to the crops of rice and cotton.

Vice-Admiral Viscount Mūdaguchi, Superintendent of the Yokosuka Admiralty Office, has submitted a memorial to the Minister of State for the Navy suggesting the advisability of stationing a naval force in Hokkaido. The memorial will be considered at a meeting of the Admiralty Council after the return of Count Saigo from Korea and Vladivostock.

It is stated that owing to the increase of traffic in the Island Sea, the Nippon Yuen Kai-sha has ordered from England two new steamers to be named the *Musashi Maru* and *Sendai Maru*, in addition to the *Kobe Maru* which is now in course of construction there. The *Musashi Maru* and *Sendai Maru* will be of 2,500 and 1,500 tons respectively, and both are expected to arrive at Yokohama about March or April next.

Portraits of officials who occupied the office of Governor of Tokyo since the Restoration of 1868, which were ordered some time ago from Mr. Azukawa Ryōichi, an oil-painter of Sanjūkenbo, Kyōbashi, to be hung in the Governor's Chamber in the City Office, have been completed, and were sent to the City Office on the 13th instant. The portraits are those of the late Mr. Karasumaru Mitsuhiro, Viscount Mibū Motoo (now senator), Count Oki Takatō (now President of the Senate), Mr. Yuki Kihama (now senator), the late Viscount

Oku (late Mr. Kusunoki Masataka (now senator)), the late Mr. Matsuda Michiyuki, Mr. Yoshikawa Akimasa (now Vice Minister of State), Mr. Hōmei Aida, Mr. Ueda Saburō Hirokazu (now resident), Mr. Yamada Teijirō, and Baron A. S. (late Resident of the colony).

THE STRAITS INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the Report for presentation to the Shareholders at the Eleventh Ordinary General Meeting, to be held in the Company's Offices, Singapore, on Saturday, the 29th October, 1888, at 11.45 a.m. precisely:

To the Shareholders of the Straits Insurance Company, Limited.

Gentlemen.—Your Directors beg to place before you the annexed Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1888.

The net Profit earned after deducting Reinsurances and Returns, amounts to \$101,262.88.

The Interest accrued to \$22,233.61.

1887.—After paying a Bonus of 5% to contributors and placing \$10,000 to Reserve, there remained a balance of \$82,170, which has since been reduced by Losses and Claims to \$60,833; as far as can be judged at present, this amount, addition to recoveries, will be sufficient to meet all further claims.

1888.—After payment of an interim dividend to shareholders of 5 per cent, to 30th June, the Working Account shews a balance of \$113,530.73; which amount is carried forward.

London Agency.—Your Directors have decided on carrying on the whole of the Company's business at their new offices, 25, Cornhill (opposite the Royal Exchange) from 1st September, under the management of Mr. Thomas Holroyd Robinson, who has been the Company's underwriter in London since the formation of the Company, and who has now been appointed special Agent, in the place of Messrs. Scott & Co.; Mr. Robinson will be assisted by a local Committee.

Directors.—The Hon. C. W. Connington and Mr. Meyer Behr, having resigned their seats at the Board, Messrs. Wm. McKerrow and G. W. F. Playfair were invited to take their places.

T. S. THOMSON, } Directors.

Singapore, 1st September, 1888.

NAGASAKI.

The new Medical College it has been decided to establish here is, we learn, to be erected on a suitable site in the Ourakami district.

H. J. M.'s cruiser *Takachiho-kan* left on the 1st inst., for Chemulpo via Fusau, to join Admiral Ito's fleet, where she is to replace the *Fuso-kan* as flag-ship.

The American ship *Raphael* arrived from Yokohama on Thursday last, (Sept. 11th) with 800 tons of her original cargo of Cardiff coal on board, for the British Naval Coal Depot.

A telegram dated Kunming the 10th inst. (6 p.m.) announces the total loss of the coasting steamer *Harima Maru*, at the entrance of Misumi harbour. No lives were lost.

The British barque *Rothiemay*, having discharged her cargo of kerosine oil, is now loading a full cargo of Miike coal for San Francisco. This is the first cargo of coal that has been shipped from Nagasaki to San Francisco.

The sale and introduction of the *Sekainosaki-za*, a Japanese newspaper published at San Francisco, by Japanese has been prohibited by the Minister of Home Affairs, as likely to disturb the national peace.

A marine Court was held at the Nagasaki Marine Office, to investigate into the circumstances attending the stranding of the coasting steamer *Meishin Maru*, on a reef off Kawara on the 10th July, whilst on a voyage from Hiogo to this port, and the Court found the master to blame for failing to take proper precautions during a thick fog. His certificate was consequently suspended for three months.

Mr. Selck, chief officer of the *Mitsui Bishi* Co.'s steamship *Fusa*, has been promoted to Captain, in place of Capt. Trent, who will leave shortly for England, to bring out a large new collier for the Co.'s Hongkong trade, which was recently purchased on the stocks. The new vessel is to be named the *Angas* (Morning Glory, or Convolvulus), and will be of about 3,700 tons carrying capacity. She is, we believe, expected to arrive here about March next.—*Rising Sun.*

CHAN FU, Stanley, 22nd September, 1888.

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"TETARTOS,"

Captain Paterson, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 1st October, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

AH YON & CO.

Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [944]

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "ABERDEEN" FROM SAN FRANCISCO, YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND KUTCHINOTZU.

THE above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo, are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Counter-signature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo including the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignee's risk and expense.

ADAMSON, BELL & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd September, 1888. [36]

THE PUNJOM AND SUNGHEE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

LETTERS of 20th, 24th, and 25th August, 1888 have been received from the MINES, and are open to perusal of Shareholders between the hours of 10 A.M. and 1 P.M. at the Company's Office, No. 9, Queen's Road Central.

A. OUD. GOURDIN, Secretary.

Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [947]

Anti-slavery.

LAUDATORY NOTICE.

POLICE SERGEANT BUTLIN,

who has been in charge of the Stanley Police Station for a period of twenty-two months, is about to be transferred to Hongkong. The Undersigned, who has been resident in Stanley for many years and who represents the opinions of the other Chinese residents of the village, desires to bear public testimony to the most efficient manner in which Mr. BUTLIN has discharged his duties during his term of service. By his courage and energy, he, on two separate occasions, distinguished himself by capturing pirates, and has effectively put a stop to their depredations. The village is now quite tranquil. Mr. BUTLIN has always been on good terms with the residents and is deservedly popular; his transfer to Hongkong is generally regretted, and will be a great loss to Stanley.

CHAN FU, Stanley, 22nd September, 1888. [941]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS are requested to send in a Statement of Business Contributed during the half-year ended 30th June, 1888, on or before the 30th instant, on which date the Accounts will be CLOSED.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

D. GILLIES, Secretary.

Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [872]

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Steam Dispatch Launch

"BONNIE,"

is now lying off Pedder's Wharf for Hire.

For terms apply to

THE COMPANY'S OFFICE,

1, Pedder's Street,

Hongkong, 12th September, 1888. [899]

FOR HIRE.

THE Fast Steam Launch "ELK" is always kept under steam off Pedder's Wharf and is at the service of the public for proceeding to and from Steamers, Picnic and Bathing Parties, etc.

For particulars, apply to

CRUICKSHANK & CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 17th August, 1888. [801]

HONGKONG HOTEL.

THE HOTEL is prepared to SUPPLY Picnic and Shooting Parties with all requirements.

The Hotel Launch is Available for HIRE when not required for Hotel purposes.

Apply to

C. M. ROBERT, Manager.

Hongkong, 13th September, 1888. [915]

A. G. GORDON & CO.

ENGINEERS, LAUNCH BUILDERS,

GENERAL and GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS, IRONMONGERS, COMMISSION AGENTS, VALUATORS, IRON and TIMBER MERCHANTS.

WORKS :

BOWRINGTON, EAST POINT.

OFFICE :

CORNER OF PEDDER STREET AND PRAYA.

STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [41]

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO., CHRONOMETRISTS, WATCH and CLOCK MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-SMITHS, and OPTICIANS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Sole Agents for Louis Audemars, Watches;

awarded the highest Prizes at every Exhibition;

and for Voigtlander and Sohn's

CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES,

MARINE GLASSES, and SPYGLASSES.

No. 8, Queen's Road Central. [607]

NOW READY.

THE PRAYA RECLAMATION SCHEME

A FULL ACCOUNT of the proceedings in connection with this gigantic undertaking, reprinted from the *Hongkong Telegraph*. With plan of the city of Victoria, showing the intended Reclamation.

PRICE ONE DOLLAR.

to be obtained at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH,

LTD., Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and

Mr. W. Sawyer's.

Hongkong, 14th September, 1888. [948]

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG.</p

